

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph on page 3, lines 33-34, with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 2A shows EST 905531 (SEQ ID NO:3) and ~~Fig-~~Figure 2B shows EST 1326258 (SEQ ID NO:4) in alignment with human *Ptch-2* (SEQ ID NO:1). These EST's were used in the cloning of human full-length *Ptch-2*.